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Docket No.: 026746.101-US01  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Craig A. Branch et al.

Application No.: 10/826,321

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: April 19, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: **RADIO FREQUENCY SHIELD FOR  
NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE  
PROCEDURES**

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**MS Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the following items for filing in connection with the above-referenced Patent Application:

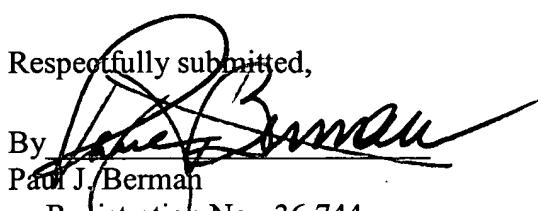
1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO/SB/08a/b;
3. Two cited documents; and
4. Return receipt postcard.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0740, under Docket No. 026746.101-US01. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

It is not believed that extensions of time fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0740.

Dated: June 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Paul J. Berman

Registration No.: 36,744  
COVINGTON & BURLING  
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004-2401  
(202) 662-6000



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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**MS AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a/b are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a/b based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior

art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
  - a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
  - b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

c. Attached is our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.

5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/826,297, filed April 19, 2004 and 10/826,260, filed April 19, 2004, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of these U.S.

Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

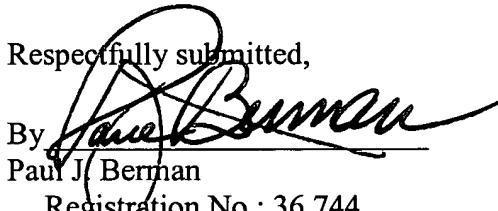
8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a/b, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0740, referencing Docket No. 026746.101-US01.

Dated: June 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Paul J. Berman

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete If Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/826,297
				Filing Date	April 19, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Craig A. Branch
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	026746.101-US02

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Filing Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )			
AA	US-10/826,321		04-19-2004	Craig A. Branch, et al.	
AB	US-10/826,260		04-19-2004	Craig A. Branch, et al.	

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )			
					T <sup>6</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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